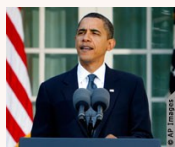




Obama "Humbled" by Award of 2009 Nobel Peace Prize



President Obama says he accepts the 2009 Nobel

Peace prize as a call to action.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize to President Obama "for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples."

At a White House briefing, Obama told reporters that "I am both surprised and deeply humbled by the deci-

sion of the Nobel committee. I do not view it as a recognition of my own accomplishments, but rather as an affirmation of American leadership on behalf of aspirations held by people in all nations."

[Read more...](#)

Obama Wins Nobel Prize for Nuclear Disarmament, Multilateralism

In its statement, the Nobel Committee described President Obama as "the world's leading spokesman" for the aspirations for a better future that the committee seeks to promote, citing Obama's

commitments to multilateral diplomacy and dialogue, instead of force, to resolve conflicts, his pursuit of a world free of nuclear weapons and a world where democracy and human rights are strengthened.

[Read more...](#)

Obama Is Among 21 Americans Awarded Nobel Peace Prize

President Obama stands as one of many American Nobel Peace Prize winners. He becomes the fourth U.S. president to win the award.

[Read more...](#)

COLUMBUS DAY COMMEMORATES EXPLORER'S ARRIVAL IN NEW WORLD

Columbus Day (second Monday in October) is the annual U.S. commemoration of explorer Christopher Columbus' landing in the New World (at San Salvador Island, also known as Waitling Island, today part of the British Bahamas) on October 12, 1492. Columbus was not the first European to cross the Atlantic successfully. Viking sailors are believed to have established a short-lived settlement in Newfoundland sometime in the 11th century, and scholars have argued for a number of other possible pre-Columbian landings. Columbus, however, initiated the lasting encounter between Europeans and the indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

[Read more...](#)



In early morning fog, a replica of one of Christopher Columbus' ships, Nina, departs Maysville, Kentucky, where it was on tour.

America.gov News

Obama Lauds Afghan President's Participation in Runoff Vote

Afghan President Hamid Karzai's agreement to participate in a runoff vote for his country's presidential election is "an important step forward" toward ensuring a credible electoral process and it strengthens Afghanistan's democracy, President Obama says.

Obama Praises Democratic Advances in Iraq

President Obama praised the democratic commitment of the Iraqi people and their government as he also called for timely passage of a new election law for January 2010 parliamentary elections.

Biden to Visit Poland, Romania and Czech Republic

Vice President Biden will travel to Poland, Romania and the Czech Republic to discuss a range of issues at a critical time for East European nations that are transitioning from local agendas to a broader global security environment, Biden's senior national security adviser said October 19

Sudan Policy Aims at Ending Genocide, Implementing Peace Accord

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton unveiled a "comprehensive" U.S. policy for resolving the conflicts in Sudan, focused on ending human rights abuses and genocide in the Darfur region, fully implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the government and the Sudan People's Liberation Move-

ment (SPLM) and ensuring Sudan does not become a haven for violent extremists.

Clinton: China, Russia Trade Pacts Show Economic Interdependence

Trade agreements recently announced between China and Russia, including a mammoth natural gas arrangement, illustrate a world of greater economic interdependence and interconnectedness, and a world vastly different from the Cold War period of the 20th century, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton says in a recent Moscow interview.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

President Obama discusses the importance of cybersecurity and self-protection strategies.

TWO AMERICANS CAPTURE NOBEL ECONOMICS PRIZE

Elinor Ostrom, a political science professor at Indiana University, is the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Economics.

Oliver Williamson, a winner of the 2009 Nobel Prize in Economics, is a professor at the University of California at Berkeley.

THREE AMERICAN RESEARCHERS AWARDED NOBEL PRIZE IN MEDICINE

The winners are Elizabeth Blackburn of the University of California, San Francisco, Carol Greider of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Jack Szostak of Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital.

Afghan Elections and Other Issues



Secretary Clinton (Oct. 20):

"Afghanistan has been through a rough and contentious election. ...I welcome President Karzai's announcement that he accepts the recommendations of the Electoral Complaints Commission and the Independent Election Commission's statement on the August 20 first round election results. The leadership shown by the President, Dr. Abdullah and all of the other candidates has strengthened Afghanistan and kept faith with the best interests of the Afghan people. Afghan plans are in place to enable a sec-

ond round of voting, and we pledge our support to the election authorities to help them achieve a conclusion to the elections process." -Full Text --President Obama's Statement

OTHER ISSUES:

Sudan Strategy In the past, the United States' approach to Sudan has been reactive rather than proactive and narrowly focused on emerging crises. The new strategy focuses on reinvigorating the international support that is critical to building peace and security in Sudan. The strategy is

the first comprehensive U.S. policy on Sudan that recognizes the links between the Darfur and implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Full Text | Statement by President Obama | Sudan: A Critical Moment, A Comprehensive Approach | Senior Administration Officials on Sudan



Mike Posner Sworn-in As Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor

World Food Day (Oct.16)

News from the White House

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM

LEARN MORE

The President's Plan

WATCH the VIDEO



On Monday, October 5th, 2009, President Barack Obama signed an Executive Order on Federal Sustainability – and in doing so, committed the Federal government to lead by example, practice what we preach and help build a clean energy economy through how we operate.

WHY AMERICAN FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES NEED FINANCIAL REFORM

This week, the House Financial Services Committee began its formal deliberations regarding the President's financial reform plan. This is a crucial piece of President Obama's agenda for change and something you will be hearing much more about in coming weeks. Read more...

Multimedia News (America.gov)

PHOTO GALLERY

ENDING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN AFRICA

Raising awareness of gender-based violence is the first step in stopping it.

HIGHLIGHTS OF A HISTORIC CONFERENCE

Making Climate History in Geneva.

VIDEO

GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY: U.S. COMMITMENT TO ACTION

The United States is committed to eradicating global hunger.

Did you know?

Hispanics, with a population of 47 million, are the largest and fastest-growing minority group in the United States.

Fashion designer Isabel



Toledo at a retrospective exhibit of her work at the Fashion Institute

of Technology Museum in New York.

Learn more:

[Hispanics, the Largest U.S. Minority, Enrich the American Mosaic](#)

A new U.N. Security Council resolution aimed at protecting women from violence in conflict zones may bring more perpetrators to justice, U.S. officials say.

Many traumatized rape victims are reluctant to help authorities with prosecutions for fear of reprisals or because they want to forget.



Learn more:

[New U.N. Measure to Encourage Accountability for Sexual Violence](#)

Partners in Space

The International Space Station's new six-person crew represents all of the orbiting laboratory's major partners: NASA, the Russian Federal Space Agency, the Canadian Space Agency, the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency and the European Space Agency.

Expedition 20 crew portrait



Learn more:

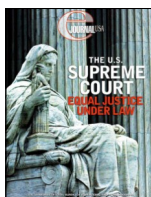
[New Six-Person Space Station Crew Represents All Partners](#)

eJournal USA / Other America.Gov Publications

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT: EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW

As an institution, the Supreme Court commands respect, legitimacy, and prestige both in the United States and abroad. The October 2009 edition of *eJournal USA* describes many aspects of the U.S. Supreme Court. Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Solicitor General Elena Kagan

present their introductions and contributions by legal scholars and journalists focus on the elements of judicial decision making and independence of the justices. Four Court officials and a former Supreme Court law clerk also describe their jobs.



CLIMATE CHANGE PERSPECTIVES

This *eJournal USA* offers perspectives of experts and activists in several key countries on effective policies to curb greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate global warming and adapt to irreversible changes, and features an introduction by U.S. special envoy Todd Stern.



Prepare for Health Effects of Climate Change, World Experts Urge

Better surveillance and forecasting, research into vulnerability needed

Recognition of the link between climate change and health is growing, driving efforts of those who are the front-line responders — public health professionals — to make sure health care systems and global populations are prepared for the worst.

Scientists worldwide agree that climate is changing as a result of human activity, and climate in-

fluences the biological functions basic to life.

... This year, in 2009, a range of studies, reports and institutions are delving even deeper into the costs and effects of climate change on public health. WHO released "Protecting Health from Climate Change," a report that details global research priorities related to health and climate change, for example, and U.S. researchers published a study examining climate change and

health costs of air emissions from biofuels and gasoline.

Read more...

[Congressional Complexities Challenge Climate Change Efforts](#)

President Obama addresses the U.N. Summit on Climate Change September 22 before the 64th session of the U.N. General Assembly.



DIVERSITY VISA LOTTERY FOR 2011 IS OPEN UNTIL NOVEMBER 30

The Statue of Liberty has greeted immigrants to the United States since 1886.



NEW YORK CELEBRATES 400TH ANNIVERSARY OF HUDSON'S VOYAGE

For centuries, city has thrived on immigrants' contributions

A view of lower Manhattan and the Brooklyn Bridge today



PROTECTING HEALTH FROM CLIMATE CHANGE: GLOBAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES

This report presents the conclusions and recommendations from this process, with the aim of improving the evidence base for policies to protect health from climate change.



ENGLISH TEACHING FORUM - 2009 - VOLUME 47, NUMBER 1

This issue features Hawaii, and a lesson plan guides teachers in exploring Hawaiian culture, and their own cultures, with their students. Other articles discuss integrating indigenous cultures into English language teaching, integrating critical thinking into language teaching, using story boxes in the classroom, and learning to hypothesize through Sudoku game play.



October 7, 2009

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT AN ASTRONOMY EVENT WITH STUDENTS

ORACLE CORPORATION BOOSTS SKILLS OF ROMANIAN TEACHERS, STUDENTS
California-based Oracle Corporation, the world's largest business-software company, has teamed with the Romanian government to educate thousands of teachers and tens of thousands of students in business and technology skills to enable Romanian companies to be better competitors for international business.

English Teaching Corner

Welcome to the **Environmental Education** volume of the *Forum's* electronic journal *Language and Civil Society*. (US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs)

As teachers work through the activities in this volume with their classes, their students will gain competence in English as well as learn how they can help preserve the world's delicate environment.

The **Civic Education** volume is designed specifically for language teachers who are turning toward content-based instruction to promote content learning and lan-

guage learning in their classes. Through the exploration of topics related to civic education, language teachers can help their students master English and simultaneously become more knowledgeable citizens of the world.

ONLINE PUBLICATIONS: USA EDUCATION IN BRIEF

USA Education in Brief covers the development of the public school movement, beginning with "common school," (the iconic little red schoolhouse) in the 18th century, through the Land-Grant university movement to the G.I. Bill of Rights and the civil rights movement

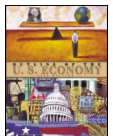
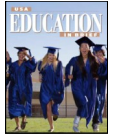
which expanded educational opportunity to all U.S. citizens.

Additional topics include 21st century challenges; civic, bilingual, and special education; foreign exchanges; and teaching democracy to a new generation.

OUTLINE OF THE U.S. ECONOMY

The U.S. economy of the 21st century little resembles that of the 18th century, but acceptance of change and embrace of competition remain unchanged.

Inside this publication



Education Statistics / Fast Facts

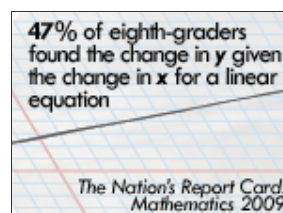
LATEST PUBLICATIONS ONLINE

The Nation's Report Card: Mathematics 2009

This report presents results of the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in mathematics at grades 4 and 8. Results for students in the nation, the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Department of Defense schools are reported as average scores and as percentages of students performing at or above three achievement levels:

Basic, Proficient, and Advanced. Scores are also reported at selected percentiles, showing changes in the performance of lower-, middle-, and higher-performing students.

Read more...



FAST FACTS

Is participation in adult learning increasing?

Adult education activities are formal activities including basic skills training, apprenticeships, work-related courses, personal interest courses, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, and part-time college or university degree programs. This indicator examines the participation rates for adult education activities of individuals age 16 or older.

Read more...

Feature Article and more Resources for Students and teachers...

The Case for International Education

By Allan E. Goodman

Pursuing an education in a foreign country allows a young person to develop the skills necessary to become an effective and productive global citizen. Allan E. Goodman is president and chief executive officer of the Institute of International Educa-

tion, the leading not-for-profit organization in the field of international educational exchange and development training.

Read more...



IIE's Allan E. Goodman champions the values of global citizenship attained

through a transnational educational experience.

Resource Guide

Books, reports, Web sites, and other reference material focused on international study.



Library Corner

If you are interested in receiving full-text of the following articles, just send an email to: reflisbon@state.gov

"Marketing Library Services Through Facebook Groups", by Z. David Xia in **Library Management**, Vol. 30, Issue 6/7.

How to use facebook as a new means of library marketing.

EU launches digital library at Frankfurt Book Fair

The European Union used the world's biggest **book fair** to launch the EU Bookshop's digital library, making more than 50 years of documents in about 50 languages available for free on the Internet

How To Become a Librarian—Updated

This exciting and varied profession embraces public service, literature, the cutting edge of technology, and more
By Rachel Singer Gordon --
Library Journal.com, 9/15/2009

Future of Books

Will traditional print books disappear?
May 29, 2009 • Volume 19, Issue
The migration of books to electronic screens has been accelerating with the introduction of mobile reading on Kindles, iPhones and Sony Readers and the growing power of Google's Book Search engine. Even the book's form is mutating as innovators experiment with adding video, sound and computer graphics to text. Some fear a loss of literary writing and reading, others of the world's storehouse of knowledge if it all goes digital.



American Library Association News

Libraries and the PATRIOT Act

What does the PATRIOT Act have to do with libraries? [Click here to find out.](#)

President names October 2009 National Information Literacy Awareness Month

Google Should to Use Extra Time Add Privacy Into Google Book Search (EFF 10/06/09)

Today EFF along with the ACLU and the privacy

authors and publishers they represent, the American Library Association, the Association of Research Libraries and the Association of College and Research Libraries, CDT, EPIC, SFLC, Professor James Grimmelman sent a joint letter to Google urging it to include privacy protections along with its reconsidered Google Book Search Settlement. [Read More....](#)



Library of Congress—1492: An ongoing voyage...

The exhibition **1492: AN ONGOING VOYAGE** describes both pre- and post-contact America, as well as the Mediterranean world at the same time. Compelling questions are raised, such as: Who lived in the Americas before 1492? Who followed in the wake of Columbus? What was the effect of 1492 for Americans throughout the Western Hemisphere? The Library of Congress' Quincentenary exhibition addresses these questions, as well as other related themes, including fifteenth century European navigation, the myths and facts surrounding the figure of Columbus, and the differences and similarities between European and American world views at the time of contact.

LATEST NEWS:

Hispanic Heritage Month at the Library of Congress



Dancers perform a flamenco style dance for school children in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. (© AP Images)

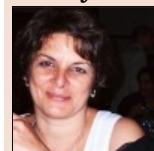
The Library of Congress Talks Digital Initiatives

Josh Hadro - 09/01/2009

Recently, LJ Academic Newswire columnist Ellyssa Kroski interviewed Michelle Springer, a project manager of digital initiatives within the Library of Congress Office of Strategic Initiatives. They covered the library's recent forays into social media, including a blog, a Facebook Page, YouTube and iTunes channels, and a Twitter account, as well as its participation in Flickr Commons. [More](#)

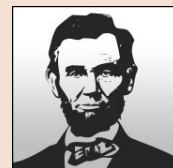
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL LIBRARIANSHIP AWARD 2009

Maria Jose Vitorino has been awarded the IASL School Librarianship Award for her service in the development of school libraries in Portugal and the promotion of school librarianship in Europe. [Read more...](#)



WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE: THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION

In commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of the nation's revered sixteenth president, this exhibition reveals Lincoln the man, whose thoughts, words, and actions were deeply affected by personal experiences and pivotal historic events.



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EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES
LISBON • PORTUGAL

**U.S. SPEAKER SHARES
AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
ON DEVELOPING ADVOCACY GROUPS TO ADDRESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Oct. 14-16, 2009

At the invitation of U.S. Embassy Lisbon's Office of Public Affairs, the Head of the Washington Office of Public Policy for the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church, Susie M. Johnson toured several cities in Portugal to advocate the need to empower victims of domestic violence and expand grassroots campaigns and community initiatives.



EMBASSY LISBON CONTINUES SUPPORT OF TRANSLATION PRIZE

Sept. 30, 2009

For the second consecutive year, the Embassy's Public Affairs Office partnered with the Portuguese Catholic University to recognize three Portuguese high school students who won the university's tenth annual translation prize.



WE WOULD LIKE TO
HEAR FROM YOU!
SEND YOUR COMMENTS
OR SUGGESTIONS TO
REFLISBON@STATE.GOV

The Resource Center is part of the Office of Public Affairs and assists the Embassy staff as well as Portuguese government institutions, the private sector, NGO's, the media, researchers, scholars, and others with a serious research interest in the United States.

Hours of Operation

- The AERC provides telephone service every day between 9:30 and 16:30 except during: Lunch Hour (12:30 - 13:30), weekends, and **Portuguese/American Holidays**
- AERC also responds to queries by fax, telephone, e-mail and regular mail.
- Access to our facility is by appointment only. Please call us in advance to schedule your visit.

Latest Reports - Special Edition, National Information Literacy Awareness Month.

If you are interested in receiving full text of the following reports, just send an email to:

reflisbon@state.gov

IFLA: INFORMATION LITERACY SECTION. International Federal of Library Associations. October 2009.

The primary purpose of the Information Literacy Section is to foster international cooperation in the development of information literacy education in all types of libraries and information institutions.

HEALTH LITERACY. Medline Plus, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. October 2009.

Health literacy is the ability to understand health information and to use that information to make good decisions about your health and medical care. Health information can overwhelm even people with advanced literacy skills. About one third of the adult population in the United States has limited health literacy.

INFORMATION LITERACY. Association of College & Research Libraries. October 2009. The Association of College & Research Libraries under the American Library Association website provides the overview of information literacy and links to resources and ideas.

NATIONAL INFORMATION LITERACY AWARENESS

MONTH, 2009: BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: A PROCLAMATION. The White House. October 1, 2009.

President Obama declares October to be National Information Literacy Awareness Month. The proclamation was an initiative of the National Forum on Information Literacy supported by Senator Kerry and the late Senator Kennedy.

WHAT TODAY'S COLLEGE STUDENTS SAY ABOUT CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN THE DIGITAL AGE. Project Information Literacy Progress Report. Alison J. Head and Michael B. Eisenberg. 2009.

The report presents findings from college student discussion groups. Research will continue with a large-scale student survey.

WIKIPEDIA & INFORMATION LITERACY University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. Eric Jennings. April 2009.

Wikipedia is a new generation research tool that many students utilize. It is often in the top 10 results in a Google search. Since students use Google a lot, often before they use a library's online catalog or one of its databases,

Wikipedia has become a big part of student research. Because of this, some in higher education (librarians, professors, and administrators) discourage its use and/or ban it, according to the author.

INFORMATION LITERACY: ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR THE INFORMATION AGE. The Information School of the University of Washington. Michael B. Eisenberg. March 2008.

The paper offers an overview of Information Literacy (IL) focusing on three contexts for successful IL learning and teaching.

UNDERSTANDING INFORMATION LITERACY: A PRIMER. U. N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Forest Woody Horton, Jr. 2008.

Explaining in an easy-to-understand, non-technical fashion to senior and middle level public and private sector executives – in government ministries, private enterprises, academic institutions, and not-for-profit organizations – how to find, retrieve, organize, evaluate and effectively use information is what the publication is all about.■